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Name: James J. Dade

Signature:

Date: April 6, 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor : Ofir Zohar, et al.
Serial No. : 10/620,080
Filed : 07/15/2003
Title : DATA ALLOCATION IN A DISTRIBUTED ...

April 6, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

S I R:

In order to comply with discretionary regulations 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the non-US documents (if any) listed thereon. These documents contain information which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

Also attached is a copy of the Partial European Search Report dated February 28, 2006, for the corresponding European Patent Application EP 04 25 4197. All of the documents listed in Form PTO-1449 appear in the Partial European Search Report.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed

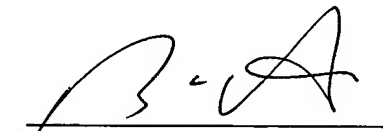
as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

As this statement is being filed prior to issuance of a final Office Action, please charge a fee of \$180.00 to Deposit Account 50-1290 in accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(c) and 1.17(p). Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

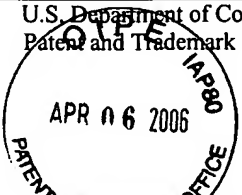
Respectfully submitted,



Brian E. Hennessey
Reg. No. 51,271

CUSTOMER NO.: 026304
Telephone: (212) 940-8800
Fax: (212) 940-8986
DOCKET NO.: ASSIA 20.502

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1449/PTO	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Application No. : 10/620,080
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Sheet 1 of 1		Filing Date : 07/15/2003
		First Named Inventor: Ofir Zohar
		Group Art Unit : 2182
		Examiner Name : Angel L. Casiano
		Attorney Docket No. : ASSIA 20.502

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document	Kind Code if known ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		5,390,327		Lubbers, et al.	02-14-1995	*
		5,615,352		Jacobson, et al.	03-25-1997	*

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Office ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Country	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY/Y	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

* Mentioned in Partial European Search Report dated February 28, 2006 for corresponding European Application EP 04 25 4197

Other Prior Art-Non Patent Literature Documents

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), data, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, country, where published, source.	Applicant check here if English language translation attached
		Partial European Search Report dated February 28, 2006 for corresponding European Application EP 04 25 4197	
		CORTES, et al, "Extending Heterogeneity to RAID Level 5", Proceedings of the 2001 Usenix Annual Technical Conference, Usenix Assoc., pages 119-132, Berkeley, CA, USA, 2001	
		YAGER, "The Great Little File System, Veritas Provides Flexible, Secure Data Storage For UNIX SVR4.2 Systems", Byte, vol. 20, no.2, McGraw-Hill Inc., St. Peterborough, USA, 1995	
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.
¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.1.¹ if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. Burden Hour